United Nations S/PV.4004

Security Council
Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4004th Meeting
Saturday, 15 May 1999, 1.55 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Dangue Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Buallay
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Qin Huasun
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Gambia	Mr. Jagne
	Malaysia	Mr. Hasmy
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. van Walsum
	Russian Federation	Mr. Granovsky
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Jeremy Greenstock
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1999/514)

99-85384 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 1.55 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1999/514)

The President (*spoke in French*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Tajikistan, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Alimov (Tajikistan), took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan, document S/1999/514.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/1999/557, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

I give the floor to the representative of Tajikistan.

Mr. Alimov (Tajikistan) (*spoke in Russian*): Tajikistan greatly values the constant attention and growing support of the international community for the process of achieving lasting peace, stability and national reconciliation in our country. Today's meeting of the Security Council, and the decision to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) for a further six months, is yet a further clear reaffirmation of the direct involvement of the United Nations in promoting a solution to the very complex tasks facing our people in overcoming the consequences of internal conflict and making progress towards strengthening the basis of the viability of Tajik society and the Tajik State.

We greatly value the activities of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Tajikistan, Mr. Jan Kubiš, and the entire UNMOT staff who, together with the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and in close cooperation with the members of the Contact Group, notably the representatives of Russia and Iran, are actively promoting the efforts of the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rakhmonov, and the Commission on National Reconciliation, to speed up the practical implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in our country.

We express our deepest gratitude to all the staff of the UNMOT, who, in close cooperation with the military personnel of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Collective Peacekeeping Forces and the Russian border forces, continue to make a significant contribution to stabilizing the situation in Tajikistan.

We view the draft resolution before the Security Council this evening as an expression of the Council's intention to continue actively to follow the situation in Tajikistan and to bolster the positive trends in the peace process. It is important that the Security Council should advocate protecting the valuable active role played by UNMOT in helping to implement the General Agreement, and to that end should strengthen the organizational and financial foundations of the Mission's activities. As the report of the Secretary-General rightly notes, despite difficulties and isolated outbreaks of tension, "The peace process in Tajikistan has made some progress" [S/1999/514, para. 29].

We have noted essential changes in all aspects of compliance with the General Agreement, in both the political and the military spheres. It is important that the spirit of accord and cooperation in Tajik society and among the country's major political forces should continue to prevail over feelings of mistrust and confrontation. Most important of all, we are increasingly seeing an improvement in peoples' frame of mind: their belief in a peaceful future for Tajikistan is growing. This is accompanied by an upswing in the economic and other spheres of Tajik life, as sometimes seen through indirect

but nonetheless indicative signs such as the fact that refugees returning to Tajikistan are rebuilding their homes and are living permanently in the areas where they were born. Highways and railroads are being built; as time goes on, these will enable us not only to strengthen our country's transport system but also to ensure that Tajikistan is included in international transcontinental communications plans. Many observers have noted the steady growth of the Tajik economy and increasing interest by foreign investors in joint projects.

To meet expectations; to build on what has already been achieved; to retain all the positive and useful things that have been done in recent times; not to allow the growing momentum towards peace and stability to be diverted or reversed: these are the central tasks that are being carried out today, in cooperation with the Commission on National Reconciliation, by the President of Tajikistan, Mr. Emomali Rakhmonov, who is the key guarantor of the irreversibility of the peace process in our country.

It is hoped in Tajikistan that donor States will respond appropriately to the sincere determination of the leadership and all the country's healthy political forces to establish peace and stability, which will enable us actively to continue the democratic, social and economic reforms that had been undermined by internal conflict. We must acknowledge that our country, lately emerged from civil war, is not yet able fully to meet the humanitarian needs of its population or to achieve a quick upswing in its economy. We are grateful to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund for their support of the Government of Tajikistan's efforts to implement structural reform and economic recovery programmes. Our joint work with the United Nations Development Programme and other international humanitarian organizations is also yielding its first results. But the lack of resources for reconstruction and development and for the reintegration into civilian life of former participants in the hostilities, in line with the outcome of the international donor conference held at Vienna in November 1997, has a significant impact on the pace and consistency of the implementation of the General Agreement.

Targeted investment in the peace process today would be a critically important contribution to the further normalization of the situation in the Republic and would help bring about speedier solutions to the gravest problems of our transitional period. It would also open the prospect of sustained growth for Tajikistan.

The Security Council and the Secretary-General have appealed to Member States expeditiously to contribute to the 1999 Consolidated Interagency Appeal for Tajikistan; we hope that these appeals will be heeded, and that the plan for United Nations humanitarian activities in my country will be carried out to the greatest extent possible.

We are pleased with the increasing support from the United Nations International Drug Control Programme; by the terms of the agreement signed by the Government of Tajikistan, this support goes to our border forces, who along with their Russian counterparts are carrying out the exceedingly complex task of stopping the flow of drugs across the Afghan-Tajik border. This, we feel, is in the interest not only of Tajikistan and Russia but of many other States as well.

The peace process in Tajikistan, established and supported with the invaluable contribution of the United Nations and of the entire international community, is entering a new and extremely serious stage in its development. The forthcoming constitutional reform exercise and elections will be a serious test of the unified nature and sustainability of that process. The sincere desire of Tajik society to show its maturity, its dedication to democratic values and its interest in a peaceful future for its country more than ever needs wide-ranging international support.

We hope that we will be able this year through our common efforts to make the decisive breakthrough to a final peace settlement in Tajikistan.

The President (*spoke in French*): It is my understanding that the Security Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1999/557) before it. If I hear no objection, I shall now put the draft resolution to the vote.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Gabon, Gambia, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in French*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1240 (1999).

There are no further speakers on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 2.10 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.4005

Security Council

Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4005th Meeting

Saturday, 15 May 1999, 2.10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Dange Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Buallay
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Qin Huasun
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Gambia	Mr. Jagne
	Malaysia	Mr. Hasmy
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. van Walsum
	Russian Federation	Mr. Granovsky
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Jeremy Greenstock
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

The situation in Sierra Leone

99-85390 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 2.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Sierra Leone

The President (*spoke in French*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Sierra Leone, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Dabor (Sierra Leone) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to document S/1999/508, which contains the text of the letter dated 3 May 1999 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council stresses that an overall political settlement and national reconciliation are essential to achieving the peaceful resolution of the conflict in Sierra Leone. In this context, it welcomes the recent holding of internal talks by a rebel delegation in Lomé, and urges the Government of Sierra Leone and rebel representatives to ensure that there are no further obstacles to a start to direct talks without delay.

"The Security Council calls upon all concerned to remain committed to the process of negotiation and to demonstrate flexibility in their approach to the process. In this context, the Council underlines its strong support for the mediation efforts of the United Nations within the Lomé process, in particular the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to facilitate dialogue, and for the key role being played by the President of Togo.

"The Security Council commends, once again, the continued efforts of the Government of Sierra Leone and the Military Observer Group of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOMOG) towards the restoration of peace, security and stability in Sierra Leone, and calls for sustained support for ECOMOG from the international community.

"The Security Council condemns the recent killings, atrocities, destruction of property and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law perpetrated on civilians by the rebels in recent attacks, in particular at Masiaka and Port Loko. It calls upon the rebels to cease such actions immediately and urges the rebel leadership to release all hostages and abductees without delay.

"The Security Council urges both parties to commit themselves to a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Lomé talks, to ensure that this is fully respected on the ground and to work constructively and in good faith for a ceasefire agreement. It calls upon both sides to refrain from any hostile or aggressive act which could undermine the talks process.

"The Security Council welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to increase, as security conditions permit, the presence on the ground of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL) within currently authorized levels, in anticipation of a cessation of hostilities. The Council also welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to send an assessment team to Sierra Leone to examine how an expanded UNOMSIL with a revised mandate and concept of operations might contribute to the implementation of a ceasefire and peace agreement in the event of a successful outcome to the negotiations between the Government of Sierra Leone and the rebels, and expresses its readiness to consider recommendations from the Secretary-General to that end.

"The Security Council stresses, however, that it will be prepared to consider deploying monitors throughout Sierra Leone only when a credible ceasefire is in place and is being respected by all sides, and there is a commitment of all parties to a framework peace agreement.

"The Security Council underlines the importance, in the context of a lasting solution to the conflict in Sierra Leone, of a plan for the internationally supervised disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, including child soldiers. It also draws attention to the need for the secure and timely disposal of collected arms, in accordance with any peace agreement reached.

"The Security Council reaffirms the obligation of all States to comply strictly with the provision of the embargo on the sale or supply of arms and related *matériel* imposed by its resolution 1171 (1998) of 5 June 1998.

"The Security Council reiterates its grave concern at the humanitarian situation in Sierra Leone and urges all parties, in particular the rebel leadership, to guarantee safe and unhindered humanitarian access to all those in need.

"The Security Council reiterates that a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Sierra Leone remains the responsibility of the Government and people of Sierra Leone, but again emphasizes the strong commitment of the international community to support a sustainable peace settlement.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1999/13.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 2.20 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.4006

Security Council

Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4006th Meeting
Wednesday, 19 May 1999, 1.35 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Dange Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Al-Dosari
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Chen Xu
	France	Mr. Doutriaux
	Gambia	Mr. Touray
	Malaysia	Mr. Misran
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. Kooijmans
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Slovenia	Mr. Žbogar
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Richmond
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States

Letter dated 17 May 1999 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/566)

99-85396 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 1.35 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States

Letter dated 17 May 1999 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/566)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them a letter dated 17 May 1999 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council, document S/1999/566.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/1999/576, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

It is my understanding that the Security Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. If I hear no objection, I shall now put the draft resolution to the vote.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Gabon, Gambia, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in French*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1241 (1999).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 1.40 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4007

Security Council

Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4007th Meeting

Wednesday, 19 May 1999, 1.40 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Dange Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Al-Dosari
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Chen Xu
	France	Mr. Doutriaux
	Gambia	Mr. Touray
	Malaysia	Mr. Misran
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. Kooijmans
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Slovenia	Mr. Žbogar
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Richmond
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

The situation in Angola

99-85402 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 1.40 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Angola

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

> "The Security Council strongly condemns the criminal act by the União Nacional Para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) against commercial aircraft, namely the shooting down of an Antonov-26 aircraft on 12 May 1999 near Luzamba and the taking hostage of its Russian crew, while the fate of its Angolan passengers remains unknown.
>
> "The Security Council expresses its grave concern at the fate of those who were on board the downed aircraft, demands the immediate and unconditional release of the Russian crew members and all other foreign nationals that may be held hostage by UNITA in Angola, and demands also information on the fate of the Angolan passengers. It stresses that UNITA and its leader Mr. Jonas Savimbi carry full responsibility for their security.
>
> "The Security Council calls upon the Government of Angola and all other concerned parties to cooperate in obtaining the release of the Russian crew members as well as in ascertaining the fate of passengers and crew members of other commercial aircraft lost under suspicious circumstances over UNITA-controlled territory.
>
> "The Security Council will remain actively seized of the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1999/14.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda. The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 1.45 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4008

Security Council

Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4008th Meeting
Friday, 21 May 1999, 3.30 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Dange Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Al-Dosari
	Brazil	Mr. Patriota
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Qin Huasun
	France	Mr. Doutriaux
	Gambia	Mr. Jagne
	Malaysia	Mr. Rastam
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. van Walsum
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Jeremy Greenstock
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Review and assessment of the implementation of the humanitarian programme established pursuant to Security Council resolution 986 (1995) (December 1996-November 1998) (S/1999/481)

Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1210 (1998) (S/1999/573)

Letter dated 19 May 1999 from the Acting Chairman of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait (S/1999/582)

99-85408 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 3.40 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Review and assessment of the implementation of the humanitarian programme established pursuant to Security Council resolution 986 (1995) (December 1996-November 1998) (S/1999/481)

Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1210 (1998) (S/1999/573)

Letter dated 19 May 1999 from the Acting Chairman of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait (S/1999/582)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have the following documents before them: S/1999/481, review and assessment of the implementation of the humanitarian programme established pursuant to Security Council resolution 986 (1995) (December 1996-November 1998); S/1999/573, report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1210 (1998); and S/1999/582, letter dated 19 May 1999 from the Acting Chairman of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/1999/588, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Argentina, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following documents: S/1999/500 and S/1999/549, letters dated 2 and 12 May 1999, respectively, from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; S/1999/559, letter dated 13 May 1999 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council; and S/1999/572, letter dated 17 May 1999 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

I shall first give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements before the voting.

Mr. Granovsky (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The Russian Federation believes that the problem of the humanitarian crisis in Iraq cannot be resolved as long as the sanctions regime remains in force. Russia firmly supports the lifting of the sanctions in connection with the establishment of a new monitoring mechanism in Iraq, pursuant to the recommendations of Ambassador Amorim's panel. We are determined to continue to work towards that end.

With regard to the humanitarian programme, the steps being taken within its framework are barely sufficient to ensure the physical survival of the population. The delivery of spare parts for the rehabilitation of Iraq's oil infrastructure is proceeding very slowly. The problem of moving funds from the 13 per cent to the 53 per cent Iraqi account has not been resolved within the context of the joint procurement calculation, and there is also an urgent need to review the percentage of funds being moved to the compensation fund.

We are aware of all of the flaws of the United Nations humanitarian operation. However, we are agreeing to extend it only because, in these circumstances, it offers some hope of easing, to some extent, the sufferings of the Iraqi people.

Against the backdrop of the humanitarian crisis, we condemn in particular the continuing aerial bombing of Iraq civilian and military facilities by the United States and the United Kingdom under the illegal pretext of the no-fly zones, which were created unilaterally, in circumvention of the Security Council. As a result of this illegal use of force, innocent people are dying. The

civilian population is suffering, and the oil and industrial infrastructure of Iraq has been damaged.

We are particularly concerned at reports of strikes against facilities used in the United Nations humanitarian operation. On 11 May, a number of civilian facilities in the Basra province were struck. These included three transshipment warehouses from which food is distributed to Iraq pursuant to the memorandum of understanding.

We pay tribute to the staff of the United Nations humanitarian programme in Iraq, who are carrying out important and noble work under difficult conditions.

Out of purely humanitarian considerations, and in a desire to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of at least a minimum of essential goods to Iraq, the Russian delegation does not object to the adoption of the technical draft before us extending resolution 986 (1995).

However, we must stress once again that it is only the lifting of sanctions, and not these palliative measures — the traditional extensions of resolution 986 (1995) — that will truly help us to overcome the humanitarian and socio-economic crisis in Iraq. That is precisely the conclusion reached by the panels of Ambassador Amorim and also the conclusion reached by the humanitarian organizations working in Iraq. The job of halting sanctions is an acute matter for the Security Council, and we will persist in seeking to resolve it in the context of the deployment in Iraq of a new monitoring disarmament mechanism.

Sir Jeremy Greenstock (United Kingdom): This draft resolution in front of us reflects the Council's desire to continue the humanitarian programme, and the United Kingdom welcomes that. Discussions amongst members of the Council continue on the Council's broader approach to Iraq. We hope that these discussions will soon reach a comprehensive conclusion compatible with the Council's present resolutions, and we will work hard to that end.

In addition to rolling over the programme for a further 180 days, this draft resolution indicates the Council's intention to keep the programme under review, including, if necessary, by adjusting the ceiling for Iraq's oil exports to fund the humanitarian programme. The discussions on the recommendations of the panel on the humanitarian side and this draft resolution together underline the Council's firm and united support for the humanitarian programme and its determination to improve the situation of the Iraqi people. We call on the Government of Iraq themselves to cooperate constructively in the implementation of this programme to ensure that the full potential of the programme to meet the needs of the Iraqi people is realized. That will make a greater immediate difference within the framework of the Council's decisions on this issue than any other single measure.

Mention has been made of the activity in the no-fly zones. There is a simple way to reduce tension. Iraq should cease targeting coalition aircraft. The United Kingdom's operations are purely reactive. We do not initiate aggressive action and if we react we target relevant military facilities only. The no-fly zones are necessary in order to limit Iraq's capacity to oppress its own people and in order to monitor its compliance with its obligations under Security Council resolution 688 (1991).

Mr. Burleigh (United States): The United States has a deep and enduring interest in the welfare of Iraqi citizens living under the regime of Saddam Hussein. We took a leading role in shaping the oil-for-food programme from its inception and note with satisfaction the demonstrable success of this important humanitarian effort. Accordingly, we are pleased to join consensus on today's draft resolution extending the oil-for-food programme in Iraq for a further six-month period. The programme is the largest humanitarian assistance effort in United Nations history, and it has brought about a significant improvement in living conditions for Iraqi civilians.

While the primary responsibility for meeting civilian needs continues to reside with the Government of Iraq, it is entirely appropriate that the United Nations act to ensure that the benefits of Iraq's oil revenues be directed to civilian needs. We note that the rise in world oil prices has increased the level of available funding in recent months, and we express again our willingness to see the programme expand in response to humanitarian needs.

We commend the leadership of the office of the Iraq programme in managing the oil-for-food programme and call upon the Government of Iraq to cooperate fully with the programme during the coming phase.

With regard to the no-fly zones, I associate the United States completely with what Ambassador Greenstock has just said with regard to the rationale for the military action that is taken from time to time by the United States Government.

Mr. Qin Huasun (China)(*spoke in Chinese*): The oil-for-food programme, established by Security Council resolution 986 (1995), has undergone five phases, which to some extent have eased the humanitarian difficulties of Iraqi civilians. We would like to express our positive assessment of the work done by the oil-for-food implementation programme, the 661 Security Council Committee members and the Secretariat.

It should be pointed out that from its inception the oil-for-food programme had its limitations. Phase V of the programme, in fact, has not resulted in significant improvements in the humanitarian situation in Iraq. As the Secretary-General stated, the programme cannot meet all the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people, nor can it restore Iraq's economic and social infrastructure to pre-1990 levels. The evaluation panel on the humanitarian situation on Iraq also came up with similar conclusions in its report. China would like to reiterate that only with the necessary political will on the part of the parties concerned and only with the lifting of economic sanctions against Iraq can there be any fundamental easing of the humanitarian situation and difficulties in Iraq.

Regrettably, however, the United States and the United Kingdom are still bombing civilian targets in the so-called no-fly zone. This act has aggravated the humanitarian crisis in Iraq. We are strongly opposed to that act committed by the United States and the United Kingdom. We demand that the United States and the United Kingdom immediately halt their bombing missions in the so-called no-fly zone.

In extending the oil-for-food programme, we believe the programme must be expanded and revised. Regrettably, however, it is difficult for the Council to reach consensus on this. Based on the considerations of maintaining basic humanitarian supplies to meet the needs of the Iraqi people and civilians, China accepts the present technical roll-over of the programme and will vote in favour of the draft resolution before us.

We fully agree with the proposal of the Secretary-General to depoliticize the humanitarian programme. We hope that the parties concerned will reach consensus on lifting the ceiling on Iraqi oil exports as soon as possible. We also hope that the 661 Committee will resolve the technical and procedural matters that are hampering implementation of the humanitarian programme, such as reimbursement, putting applications on hold, and so forth.

Mr. Doutriaux (France) (*spoke in French*): Today, in renewing the oil-for-food programme for a sixth phase, the Council is thinking of the very grave humanitarian crisis affecting Iraq. Under the leadership of Mr. Amorim, the humanitarian panel confirmed that the disturbing figures given by United Nations agencies regarding the nutritional, health and social situation of Iraq were reliable and accurate. The Council will no longer be able to say that it did not know. The Council, like Iraq, must assume its responsibilities.

At the beginning of April the panel formulated ambitious recommendations to improve the functioning of resolution 986 (1995) and to assist the Iraqi population. We would have hoped that all these proposals would have come into force as of the beginning of this new phase. We shall continue our endeavours to that end.

We are pleased to note that a positive gain seems to have been achieved. We understand from the consultations in the Council and from the addition of paragraph 14 to the draft resolution that the Council will be flexible and open on the question of the oil ceiling. If Iraq should exceed the ceiling during the sixth phase, we understand that the Council does not intend to ask Baghdad to suspend its sales. The flow of goods will not be interrupted.

In approving this sixth phase, we should also bear in mind the very clear conclusion of the report of the humanitarian panel (S/1999/356, annex II), which in paragraph 58 states,

> "the panel reiterates its understanding that the humanitarian situation in Iraq will continue to be a dire one in the absence of a sustained revival of the Iraqi economy, which in turn cannot be achieved solely through remedial humanitarian efforts."

Resolution 986 (1995), even in an improved form, will therefore not be able to provide anything but a partial and temporary response to the problem.

France hopes that the Council will quickly reach an agreement, pursuant to the recommendations of the three panels, that would make it possible to restore the unity of the Council, resolve the humanitarian crisis, ensure the resumption of normal relations between the United Nations and Iraq and ensure regional security. I wish to recall that last January we made proposals to that effect.

The President (*spoke in French*) I shall now put to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/1999/588.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Gabon, Gambia, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in French*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1242 (1999).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 4.05 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4009

Security Council
Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4009th Meeting
Thursday, 27 May 1999, 12.50 p.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Dangue Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Al-Dosari
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Chen Xu
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Gambia	Mr. Jagne
	Malaysia	Mr. Rastam
	Namibia	Mrs. Ashipala-Musavyi
	Netherlands	Mr. Hamer
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Eldon
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/1999/575)

99-85426 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 12.50 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/1999/575)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, document S/1999/575. Members of the Council also have before them document S/1999/609, which contains the text of a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

It is my understanding that the Security Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1999/609) before it. If I hear no objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Gabon, Gambia, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*spoke in French*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1243 (1999).

In connection with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:

> "As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/1999/575) states, in paragraph 11: 'Despite the present quiet in the Israeli-Syrian sector, the situation in the Middle East continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached.' That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1999/15.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.4010

Security Council

Fifty-fourth Year

Provisional

4010th Meeting

Thursday, 27 May 1999, 12.55 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Dangue Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Petrella
	Bahrain	Mr. Al-Dosari
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	Canada	Mr. Duval
	China	Mr. Chen Xu
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Gambia	Mr. Jagne
	Malaysia	Mr. Rastam
	Namibia	Mrs. Ashipala-Musavyi
	Netherlands	Mr. Hamer
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Eldon
	United States of America	Mr. Burleigh

Agenda

The situation in Somalia

99-85432 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 12.55 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Somalia

The President (*spoke in French*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Italy, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Francese (Italy) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following documents: S/1999/563, letter dated 17 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/1999/600, letter dated 24 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; and S/1999/611, letter dated 26 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Following consultations among the members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its alarm at the serious deterioration in the political, military and humanitarian situation in Somalia and concern at the reports of increasing external interference in Somalia.

"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the situation in Somalia, bearing in mind respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence and unity of Somalia, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It reiterates that full responsibility for achieving national reconciliation and for restoring peace rests with the Somali people.

"The Security Council expresses its support for the activities of the Standing Committee on Somalia and calls upon all Somali factions to cease immediately all hostilities and to cooperate with the regional and other efforts to achieve peace and reconciliation.

"The Security Council is deeply concerned at recent reports of the illicit delivery of weapons and military equipment to Somalia in violation of the arms embargo imposed by resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 which could exacerbate the crisis in Somalia and endanger the peace and security of the region as a whole.

"The Security Council reiterates its call upon States to observe the arms embargo and to refrain from any actions which might exacerbate the situation in Somalia. It further requests Member States having information about violations of the provisions of resolution 733 (1992) to provide this information to the Committee created pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) of 24 April 1992.

"The Security Council expresses its deep concern at the humanitarian impact of the long-lasting crisis, and in particular condemns attacks or acts of violence against civilians, especially women, children and other vulnerable groups, including internally displaced persons. It also condemns attacks on humanitarian workers, in violation of the rules of the international law.

"The Security Council calls upon the Somali factions to cooperate on the basis of the principles of neutrality and non-discrimination with the United Nations agencies and other organizations carrying out humanitarian activities. The Council urges all parties to guarantee the security and the freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel and to ensure unhindered access to those in need of assistance. In this regard, it also commends the existing coordination of all efforts of the international community to meet the humanitarian needs of the Somali people undertaken by the Somali Aid

Coordination Body, comprising donors, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations.

"The Security Council urges all States to contribute generously to the appeal of the United Nations to ensure continued relief and rehabilitation efforts in all regions of Somalia, including those aimed at the strengthening of civil society.

"The Security Council welcomes the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) in Nairobi.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to submit periodic reports on the situation in Somalia.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1999/16.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.